

REMARKS

Paragraph 0002 of the specification is amended herein to cited two additional prior art patents. U.S. 5,577,530 discloses a mounting plate used with a valve holder in the form of a dish that is attachable to the front face of the mounting plate by an adapter having a forwardly facing female end and a rearwardly facing male threaded end that engages a nut on the rear of the mounting plate. A detachable ring-shaped escutcheon slides into the dish once the cover has been removed.

Paragraph 0008 of the specification is amended to correct a typographical error in the description of FIG. 3.

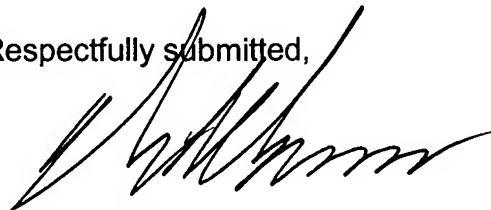
Claims 2-5 and 11 are cancelled herein without prejudice to Applicant's right to assert them in the continuing application filed concurrently herewith. Claims 1, 6-7, 10, 12, 20, 22 and 24-25 are amended. Claim 26 is newly added.

The amendments to claim 1 are well supported, for example, in paragraphs 0006, 0010, 0014 and 0015 of the specification and by claim 4 as originally filed. The amendments to claim 6 are further supported by paragraph 0010 of the specification and by claim 11 as originally filed. The amendments to the other amended claims are presented to provide consistency with the amendments made to claim 1. Claim 26 is newly added to recite a structural advantage that is not believed to be embodied in prior art connector systems.

No additional fee is believed to be required for the addition of claim 26 because the number of independent claims is unchanged and the number of total claims is

reduced by the amendments. Please charge any additional fee that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-1781 of Locke Liddell & Sapp, LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monty L. Ross', written over a horizontal line.

Monty L. Ross
Registration No. 28,899
(214) 740-8519

MLR:jeb
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LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP LLP
2200 Ross Ave., Suite 2200
Dallas, Texas 75201-6776
(214) 740-8000 Telephone
(214) 740-8800 Facsimile